

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON THE PRIVACY, TRANSACTIONS AND SECURITY REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO HEALTH CARE INFORMATION OF THE FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)

The following are sources of information concerning the applicability of and implementation of the privacy, transactions and security requirements of HIPAA. The Department of Public Health & Human Services requires that Contractors generating, maintaining, and using health care information in relation to recipients of State administered and funded services be compliant with the requirements of HIPAA.

There can be difficulty in interpreting the applicability of HIPAA to an entity. It is advisable to retain knowledgeable consultants or attorneys to advise concerning determinations of applicability.

Websites specified here may be changed without notice by those parties maintaining them.

FEDERAL RESOURCES:

The following are official federal resources in relation to HIPAA requirements. These are public sites.

1. U.S. Department Of Health & Human Services / Centers For Medicare & Medicaid Services

www.cms.gov/hipaa

The federal Department of Health & Human Services/Centers For Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides information pertaining to transactions, security and privacy requirements under HIPAA, including the adopted regulations and various official interpretative materials. CMS is responsible for the implementation nationally of the transactions and security aspects of HIPAA.

2. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services/Office Of Civil Rights

www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa

The federal Department of Health & Human Services/Office Of Civil Rights (OCR) provides information pertaining to privacy requirements under HIPAA, including the adopted regulations and various official interpretative materials. This site includes an inquiry service. OCR is responsible for the implementation of the privacy aspects of HIPAA and serves as both the official interpreter for and enforcer of the privacy requirements.

3. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services/Centers For Disease Control & Prevention

www.cdc.gov/privacyrule

The federal Department of Health & Human Services/Centers For Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) provides information pertaining to the application of privacy requirements under HIPAA to public health activities and programs.

OTHER NATIONAL PUBLIC RESOURCES:

WEDI/SNIP

www.wedi.org/snip

The Workgroup For Electronic Data Interchange is a collaborative national effort, inclusive of the federal entities, that has undertaken a broad effort at the implementation of HIPAA, in particular the electronic transactions and security aspects, known as the Strategic National Implementation Process. There are several regional and state based WEDI/SNIP efforts. There is not one, however, that covers Montana.

STATE RESOURCES:

1 Montana Collaborative Website

www.hipaamontana.com

This site is a collaborative website of several entities, including the Department of Public Health & Human Services, that provides information to the public on HIPAA as it relates to entities in Montana. The Department's policies and forms, pertaining to implementation of HIPAA, appear at this site. This site also provides an analysis as to the interplay of HIPAA with Montana laws on confidentiality.

2. Department Website For Medicaid Providers

www.mtmedicaid.org

This site provides information for providers of services funded with medicaid monies. HIPAA requirements in relation to medicaid state plan services are described at this site.

PROVIDER ASSOCIATIONS:

Many national and state provider associations have developed extensive resources for their memberships concerning HIPAA requirements. Those are important resources in making determinations as to the applicability and implementation of HIPAA.

CONSULTANT RESOURCES:

There are innumerable consulting resources available nationally. The Department does not make recommendations or referrals as to such resources. It is advisable to pursue references before

retaining any consulting resource. Some consulting resources have proven to be inappropriate for certain types of entities and circumstances and some may lack the necessary knowledge concerning the applicability and implementation of HIPAA.